

DEC 15 2003

OFFICIAL

Patent
Attorney Docket No. GEMS8081.060

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Brittain, J.
Serial No. : 09/682,699
Filed : October 5, 2001
For : Moving Table MRI With Frequency-Encoding in the z-Direction
Group Art No. : 2862
Examiner : Fetzner, T.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a) and 1.10

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

Mailing

☐ deposited with the US Postal Service in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

37 CFR 1.8(a)

37 CFR 1.10

☐ with sufficient postage as first class mail ☐ As "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label No.

Transmission

☒ transmitted by facsimile to Fax No.: 703-872-9306 addressed to Examiner Fetzner at the Patent and Trademark Office.Date: 12-15-03
Signature

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

I, Jean H. Brittain, being duly sworn, depose and say:

1. That I am the inventor for the above-identified Patent Application;
2. That I have reviewed the claims of this Application
3. That I conceived in the United States, prior to April 9, 2001, the effective

date of the cited Application No. 2002/0173715, the invention as set forth in the
aforementioned claims, and in particular, a technique of imaging large volumes without
resulting slab-boundary artifacts in which a desired FOV is defined that is larger than an

Brittain, J.**U.S. Serial No. 09/682,699**

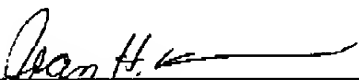
optimal imaging volume of an MR scanner and a fixed slab thickness is selected in a first direction that is smaller than the desired FOV and within the optimal imaging volume of the MR scanner. Then, either the optimal imaging volume or an imaging object is continuously moved in the first direction while repeatedly exciting and encoding spins with readout in the first direction to acquire data that is restricted to the selected slab thickness until at least one image of the FOV can be reconstructed. Attached Exhibit A is a disclosure stating such.

4. Attached as Exhibited A is a copy of my disclosure to my employer evidencing this invention that was prepared prior to April 9, 2001.

5. That from before April 9, 2001 to October 5, 2001, the filing date of the above-referenced Patent Application, I diligently worked toward reducing the aforementioned invention to practice and worked with patent counsel in the preparation of a patent application for the claimed invention.

That the statements made herein are of my own knowledge and are true and made on information and belief that are believed to be true.

I acknowledge that any willful false statements and the like made herein are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.



Jean H. Brittain

Dated: 12-13-03